LAUNCH
KID'S MINISTRIES

Dear Parents,

Over the past year, your child has been on a Chronological Journey through the Bible. Now, we would like to invite you to join in this journey with us. This is a packet of activities that you can do with your children that will reinforce the things we are learning in Kid's Church.

We have just learned how the Kingdom and Israel has split into two separate kingdoms, The Northern Kingdom (Israel) and the Southern Kingdom (Judah). In the section we are studying, we are learning about the evil kings of the Northern Kingdom and how none of the were able to rule the people the way God wanted. In the section we also see how God sent two prophets, Elijah and Elisha, to give correction and bring the people back to the Lord.

While studying these stories, your child will learn how to always put God first, and to never follow the bad example of the people around them, but continue to look to God for guidance.

Have fun and enjoy the journey,

Launch Kid's Ministries

LAUNCH
KID'S MINISTRIES

Family Journal Page

Ask family members to name three rules they would create if they were king for a day. List the rules below. Discuss each one. Would any of the rules suggested lead people to love God? Review today's big picture question and Christ connection. Discuss why it is hard for leaders to lead people to love and follow God.

Israel, the Northern Kingdom

Israel's History of Evil Kings

1 Kings 16

Preschool

Key Passage: 2 Kings 17:13-14

Big Picture Question: What kind of king did God's people need? God's people needed a king who loved God.

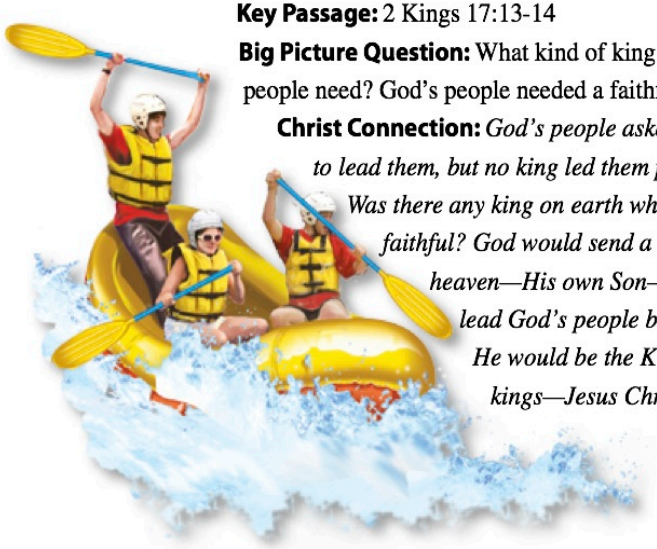
Christ Connection: *God's people wanted a king, but no king helped God's people love God. God was going to send Jesus. Jesus would come from heaven and be the king of God's people. He would help them love God, and He would be the best king ever.*

Kids

Key Passage: 2 Kings 17:13-14

Big Picture Question: What kind of king did God's people need? God's people needed a faithful king.

Christ Connection: *God's people asked for a king to lead them, but no king led them perfectly. Was there any king on earth who would be faithful? God would send a king from heaven—His own Son—who would lead God's people back to God. He would be the King of all kings—Jesus Christ.*



© 2013 Lifeway

LAUNCH
KID'S MINISTRIES

Session 1: Israel's History of Evil Kings: 1 Kings 16

Craft: Arrow Air Freshener

Supplies: liquid essential oil or potpourri, cotton swabs, felt, foam, glue, scissors, yarn, hole punch

Guide each kid to cut an arrow shape from a piece of foam and a piece of felt. Glue the felt to the foam. Help kids punch a hole in the top of their arrow and string a piece of yarn through the hole for a hanger. Instruct kids to write on the foam side of their arrow *God would send a king to lead God's people back to God. He sent JESUS!* or some other variation of the Christ Connection.

Turn the arrow felt side up and help kids dip a cotton swab into the liquid fragrance and dab the liquid onto the felt. Kids need to be careful not to splash the liquid into anyone's eyes. Kids may hang their air freshener in the car, in their room, or give it as a gift.

Say: When you see your arrow, remember how Jesus leads God's people back to God.

Activity: King-sized choice

Supplies: tape, paper wad or beanbag

Tape a small circle on the floor. Tape a start line several feet away. Invite kids to line up behind the line. Encourage the first kid in line to toss a paper wad or beanbag. If it lands and stays in the circle, he or she should share something a good king would do or say (*pray, trust God, share, love his people, and so forth*). If it lands outside the circle, he or she should share something a bad king would say or do (*not obey God, be mean, not care for his people, and so forth)*. Provide hints if necessary.

Say: They wouldn't have been perfect, but the kings of Israel didn't even try to obey God.

LAUNCH
KID'S MINISTRIES

Family Journal Page

Fill a bucket with water and place it five feet from an empty container. Guide family members to take turns carrying a jar to the bucket, filling it with water, and carrying the water to the empty bucket. Record below how much water your family transferred in two minutes. If you have a large family, you may wish to play in teams. Review today's Bible story and Christ Connection. Discuss how God sent fire to burn every piece of stone, wood, water, and dust from the altar.

Israel, the Northern Kingdom

Elijah Confronted Evil Ahab

1 Kings 18

Preschool

Key Passage: 2 Kings 17:13-14

Big Picture Question: Who is the one true God?
Yahweh is the one true God.

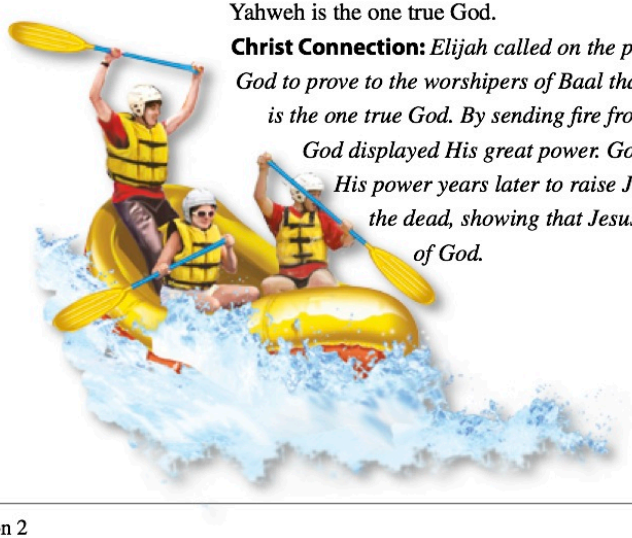
Christ Connection: *God sent fire from heaven. The people who did not worship God saw the fire and knew that God is powerful. One day, God would use His power to raise Jesus from the dead.*

Kids

Key Passage: 2 Kings 17:13-14

Big Picture Question: Who is the one true God?
Yahweh is the one true God.

Christ Connection: *Elijah called on the power of God to prove to the worshipers of Baal that Yahweh is the one true God. By sending fire from heaven, God displayed His great power. God would use His power years later to raise Jesus from the dead, showing that Jesus is the Son of God.*



© 2013 Lifeway

LAUNCH
KID'S MINISTRIES

Session 2: Elijah Confronts Evil Ahab: 1 Kings 18

Craft: Craft Stick Cuff Bracelets

Supplies: craft sticks (3 per kid), jars or round glasses, colorful tape or yarn, glue (optional), small paintbrushes (optional)

The night before, soak several craft sticksin water overnight, or boil them in water for at least 30 minutes. Boil three sticks per each kid in your group in case some break. Remove the sticks from the water, carefully bend them and place them inside small, round glasses or jars. They will each be shaped like an arc. Make sure the container you use is small enough for the wrists of the kids in your group. Allow the sticks to dry overnight. Provide each kid with a bracelet cuff. Invite the kids to wrap the craft sticks with colorful tape or yarn. If using yarn, provide small paintbrushes and demonstrate how to coat the wood with glue before wrapping it with the yarn.

Say • I was able to bend a craft stick because I soaked it in water first. God did something far more amazing. He completely burned up water-soaked wood to prove something very important.

Activity: Cloud Review

Supplies: wet paper towels, shaving cream, plastic plate

Say • What happened at the end of today's Bible story?

Elijah's servant saw a small cloud in the sky. God sent rain to Israel after three years of a drought. Today we are going to play a review game using clouds of our own.

Provide each kid with a plastic plate. Squirt a shaving cream cloud on each plate. Instruct kids that when you ask a question, they should use their finger to write the answer in the shaving cream cloud on their plate.

1. Who was the king of Israel in today's Bible story? (*Ahab, 1 Kings 18:1*)
2. Who did Ahab worship? (*Baal, 1 Kings 18:18*)
3. What did not happen for three years in Israel? (*rain, 1 Kings 18:1*)
4. What prophet did God send to Ahab? (*Elijah, 1 Kings 18:1*)
5. What was the name of the mountain that Elijah and the prophets of Baal built their altars on?(*Carmel, 1 Kings 18:19-20*)
6. What did Elijah pour over the altar he built? (*water, 1 Kings 18:33-35*)
7. What was around the altar Elijah built? (*trench, 1 Kings 18:32*)
8. What happened to the altar Elijah built?(*burned, 1 Kings 18:38*)

Family Journal Page

Guide everyone to take turns playing out a time they are afraid or something they are afraid of. Discuss how remembering the answer to today's big picture question could help each family member. Write a specific prayer below for each family member. Share with your kids a time that you were afraid or in trouble and how God helped you during that time.

Israel, the Northern Kingdom

Elijah Ran from Jezebel

1 Kings 19

Preschool

Key Passage: 2 Kings 17:13-14

Big Picture Question: How does God help in times of trouble? God promises to be with us.

Christ Connection: *Elijah was a special messenger for God. Jezebel did not like Elijah, but God was in charge. God kept Elijah safe. Jesus is God's messenger too. People did not like Jesus, but God was in charge. God used Jesus' enemies to carry out His plan to rescue people from sin.*

Kids

Key Passage: 2 Kings 17:13-14

Big Picture Question: How does God help in times of trouble? God promises to never leave or forsake us.

Christ Connection: *Elijah was God's prophet, but Jezebel wanted to kill him. God was in control, and He protected Elijah. Jesus is the true and final Prophet. People hated Jesus and wanted to kill Him. God was in control. He used Jesus' enemies to fulfill His plan to save people from sin.*

© 2013 Lifeway

LAUNCH
KID'S MINISTRIES

Session 3: Elijah Ran from Jezebel: 1 Kings 19

Snack: Bread Pinwheels

Supplies: sandwich bread, paper plates, butter, jam, butter knives, paper towels

Give each kid a slice of bread and a paper plate. Help kids make butter and jam bread pinwheels. Invite kids to butter their bread and spread jam on it. When ready, kids should roll their bread slice and cut 1/2-inch pieces.

Additional topping options: cinnamon sugar, cream cheese, sliced cheese.

Say • In our story, God provided Elijah with hot bread to eat. When you are really, really, really hungry, what do you want to eat the most? Why?

Activity: Draw it

Supplies: dry erase board, dry erase markers, or paper and pencils

Draw a place or situation where you know that God will never leave them or forsake you. Select one person to draw first. While he or she draws, the others should guess what place she is depicting.

Take turns drawing until everyone has had a turn.

Say • How do you know that God will never leave you or forsake you when you are in the place or situation you depicted in your drawing?

- Does God only stay with us in times of trouble? What about the good times? God is always with us during the good times and during times of trouble.

Family Journal Page

consider visiting a member of your church who is homebound (cannot travel to church each week). Spend time getting to know each other and praying for each other. You may also wish to have a short time of singing and devotional. Encourage kids to share the story of Elisha and Naaman. Take a picture together and attach it below. Consider calling, writing notes, and visiting this person throughout the year.

Israel, the Northern Kingdom

Elisha and Naaman

2 Kings 5

Preschool

Key Passage: 2 Kings 17:13-14

Big Picture Question: Who heals us from our sin? Jesus heals us from our sin.

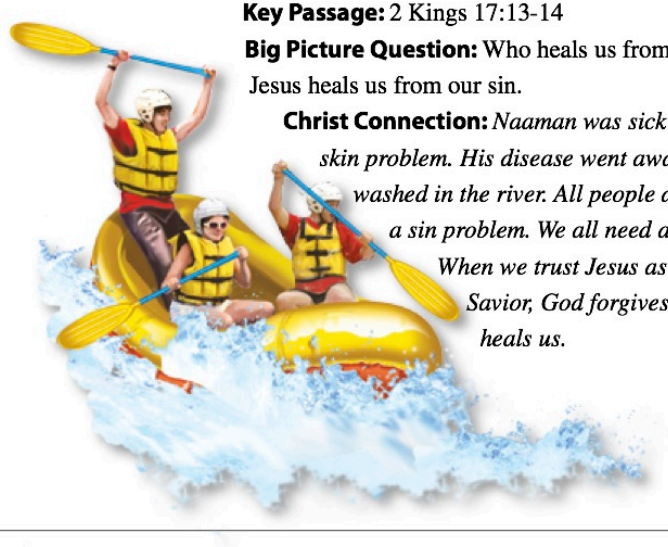
Christ Connection: *Naaman was sick. He had a problem with his skin. When Naaman washed in the river, his skin got better. No one can obey God all the time. We are all sick with a sin problem. When we trust in Jesus, He heals us. God forgives us and makes us better.*

Kids

Key Passage: 2 Kings 17:13-14

Big Picture Question: Who heals us from our sin? Jesus heals us from our sin.

Christ Connection: *Naaman was sick with a skin problem. His disease went away when he washed in the river. All people are sick with a sin problem. We all need a Healer. When we trust Jesus as Lord and Savior, God forgives our sin and heals us.*



© 2013 Lifeway

LAUNCH
KID'S MINISTRIES

Session 4: Elisha and Naaman: 2 Kings 5

Craft: Mini Water Bottles

Supplies: strips of paper, markers, mini water bottles, glue sticks

Prior to decorating, guide kids to wrap their paper strips around the water bottle labels and mark any overlap. Guide kids to create a message about Jesus on their paper strips. Encourage kids to be creative.

Allow kids to decorate their papers. Remind kids that the overlap section they marked will be covered and doesn't need decoration. After decorating, help kids use glue sticks to attach the paper to the label on the water bottle.

Say • Why do we want people to know that Jesus heals us from our sin?

Encourage kids to give their water bottle to a friend, neighbor, or family member who is not a Christian. Or arrange a time for the group to gather together and distribute the water bottles at an event.

Activity: Seven Challenge

Challenge the family to do a certain action seven times. See who can do them faster. Here are a few ideas: jumping jacks, hop on one foot, squats, run in circles, push-ups, and so forth.

Say • Elisha, God's prophet, sent his messenger to tell Naaman to dip himself seven times in the Jordan River. At first Naaman refused because he expected his healing would be different. In the end, Naaman obeyed and was healed. We all face different types of sicknesses but there is one sickness that we all have. It's called sin. Romans 3:23 says everyone has sinned. There is only one cure for sin. The cure is Jesus.

Family Journal Page

Work a puzzle together as a family. Prior to working the puzzle, scatter several of the pieces around your home. Challenge kids to find the pieces and add them to the puzzle. When the puzzle is complete, review this week's big picture question and Bible story. Explain that because God loved His people, He allowed them to be scattered. Remind kids of God's promise to one day reunite His people with Him forever. End your time together by recording prayer requests below and praying together.

Israel, the Northern Kingdom

The Northern Kingdom Was Destroyed

2 Kings 17:1-23

Preschool

Key Passage: 2 Kings 17:13-14

Big Picture Question: Why did God scatter His people? God's people sinned against Him.

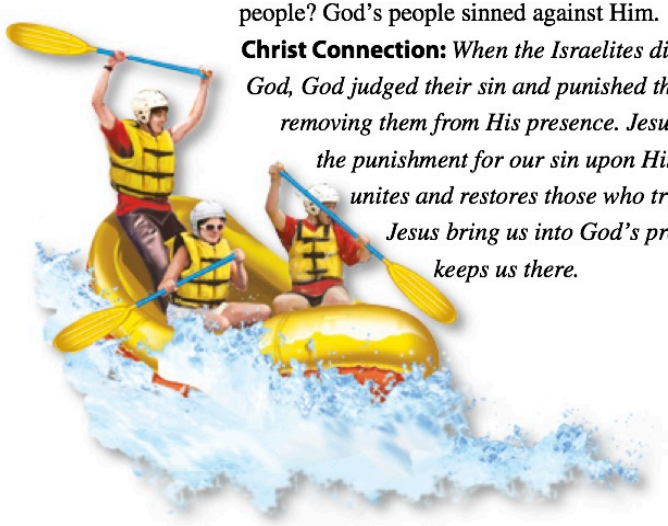
Christ Connection: *When the people of Israel did not do what God said, God punished them. We disobey God too, but Jesus took our punishment for us. People who trust in Jesus can be with God forever.*

Kids

Key Passage: 2 Kings 17:13-14

Big Picture Question: Why did God scatter His people? God's people sinned against Him.

Christ Connection: *When the Israelites disobeyed God, God judged their sin and punished them by removing them from His presence. Jesus took the punishment for our sin upon Himself. He unites and restores those who trust in Him. Jesus bring us into God's presence and keeps us there.*



© 2013 Lifeway

LAUNCH
KID'S MINISTRIES

Session 5: The Northern Kingdom Was Destroyed: 2 Kings 17:1-23

Activity: Rocket Away

Supplies: paper strips (1 per person), unsharpened pencils (1 per person), tape, straws (1 per person)

Cut a piece of paper into five strips 2 inches wide. Provide each person with one strip and a pencil. Invite the kids to wrap the paper lengthwise around the pencil, and tape the long edges together to form a tube. Then, fold one end of the small tube, flatten it, and tape it down. You should end up with what looks like a straw wrapper with one end open. Explain to the kids that they have just created a rocket. Distribute a straw to each person, and tape a start line. Allow them to see whose rocket can go the farthest by putting the rocket on one end of their straw and blowing on the other end.

Say • Sin had pushed the people far away from God, much like your air pushed away the rocket. God warned them but they didn't listen.

Activity: Falling Blocks

Supplies: paper bag, cards or scraps of paper (12), pen, blocks or stacking block tower game (Jenga)

Print on six cards the word *obey* and on six cards the word *sin*. Place the cards inside a paper bag.

Provide kids with a stack of blocks or a block game. Guide kids to stack the blocks in rows of three, alternating lengthwise and widthwise. After kids stack the blocks, encourage them to take turns removing a card from the paper bag. If the card has the word *obey*, he may leave the blocks alone. If the card says *sin*, he must remove one block without knocking down the tower. Play until the block tower collapses. If time allows, repeat the game.

Say • The Northern Kingdom fell in today's Bible story. Over and over and over, the people and their leaders chose to sin. The kingdom became more and more sinful. God was patient with the Northern Kingdom, but sin has consequences. And in today's Bible story, the consequences for the Northern Kingdom were huge and very, very sad.